

The screenshot shows the Erving Public Library website with a navigation menu on the left containing links like 'Catalog', 'Catalog Help', 'Commonwealth Catalog', 'Databases', 'Digital Commonwealth', 'Erving Library Reports', 'Find Us on Facebook', 'Fregeal Music', 'Friends of the Library', 'Hoopla Digital', 'Library Building Project', 'Novelist', 'Town Report 2017 Erving Public Library', and 'Useful Resources'. The main content area features 'Newest Arrivals' with book covers for 'Dear Evan Hansen', 'Stuart Woods', and 'Captain Underpants'. Below this are sections for 'Frequently Asked Questions', 'Staff Contacts' (listing Barbara Friedman, Joan Dalay, and Andrea DeLutis), 'Library Trustees' (listing Rupert Roy-Clark, Mackensay Bailey, and Daniel Hammock), 'News & Announcements', 'Erving Public Library Calendar' for January, 'Agendas' for various meetings, and 'Minutes'.

Easier Access to Information: New Links to More Services on the Town's New Website

Erving Public Library Annual Report 2018

Helping to Make Erving a Great Place to Live!



Summer Readers Win Prizes!



New Arrivals Everyday: 850 books, DVDs, CDs in 2018



STEAM: This is Math! A Human Clock!

Erving Public Library

Working Together for a Better Library

By the end of 2018, the new library project had gone out to bid. The Library Building Committee with assistance from Architect Philip O'Brien, Johnson/Roberts Associates and Daniel Pallotta and Rob Todisco, P3, Inc. project managers, were very active in the planning stage, meeting several times each month. As soon as the funding announcement for \$2.7 million was received from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners in February, design development began and was completed in September. Director, Barbara Friedman applied for and administers the grant and is a non-voting member of the Committee. A groundbreaking ceremony will occur in early 2019 with the construction phase lasting about a year and a grand opening planned for early 2020.

The More We Share the More We Save

The Erving Library is a member the following agencies: the Massachusetts Library System (MLS), which provides free delivery and continuing education services; the Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (C/W MARS) network which connects the library to the regional online catalog and provides digital content; the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) which provides construction money and other direct state aid; an ADHOC group of area librarians, which shares local resources, program planning and grants. The Western Massachusetts Library Advocates (WMLA) contributes to the summer reading program. Participation in these various groups adds value to the services provided through local funding. **Each year the value of these services exceeds the total operating budget provided by the town.**

Working Together for the Better

The Library staff and the Friends of the Library work with local Town Committees and Departments to share resources, facilities, and programming opportunities. This includes programs offered at other venues.

Library Programs held at the Senior/Community Center during 2018:

- The Mentalist, a Friends of the Erving Library program
- Evans Virtual Reality Workshop supported by the Erving Cultural Council
- Jungle Jim, a high energy balloon magic show
- Sheryl Faye, a character actor impersonating Eleanor Roosevelt supported by the Friends, the PTO and the Historical Commission.
- Science Magic offered free of charge from the Museum of Science (Boston)
- Cell phones and tablet tech assistance to seniors offered by the Library Director
- Evening Line Dancing for adults was offered during the summer program "Libraries Rock"
- The senior string band, *the Farley Five* perform for the Annual End-of-Summer Readers Prize Party
- Winter craft (LED light decoration) offered by the Friends of the Library

Programs at the Erving Elementary School

- Summer Story times

- Sheryl Faye performing as Sally Ride, sponsored by the Friends of the Erving Library
- In cooperation with librarian Jane Urban, the library purchases *Extreme Reading* books

Programs at the Library

- Monthly Craft Sundays with Maggie Fidanza
- Astrology with Mara Bright
- Survival Skills offered by Animal World Experience supported by the Erving Cultural Council
- An Erving Natural History Talk featured Grant Holub-Moorman
- The Annual Halloween Open House
- FAFSA form help offered by Tierny Sodders.
- First Library Card Story Time - The first graders accompanied by the fourth graders.
- In a world where math and science matter more than ever, Library Assistant Jean Daley designed more than 20 afterschool or summer programs for small and school-aged children offering Lego Days, ONCE-A-MONTH-STEAM and an additional twelve programs called Crazy 8s, a math enrichment program that is fun and educational at the same time. Daley also oversees a Science Kit lending program through Holyoke College.

For teens, the Library added two laptops with some gaming power.

As a result of the Friends of the Library's exemplary performance, including dedicating a Little Library at Riverfront Park and participating in the first annual Summerfest in the Park, the Friends lead by Rebecca Hubbard received the Massachusetts Friends of the Library Fantastic Friends Award with a cash prize of \$100 donated to the Erving Library Building Fund. The Friends have also established a fund specifically for the new building.

The Library's Numbers

The Erving Library is open 30 hours per week Sunday through Thursday, 1-7 pm

Annual Statistics for 2018

887 individuals held Erving Public Library cards with Erving as their home library

11,732 items were part of the Library's collection at the end of 2018, including nearly 3000 DVDs, 4000 adult books, 800 young adult books 3000 children's books

14,767 items valued at \$143,685 were checked out at the Erving Library desk in 2018

2,847 Erving items valued at \$61,176 circulated at other Libraries in 2018.

3,235 items valued at \$79,019 were requested by Erving patrons and were delivered via MLS van in 2018. This does not include the cost of bi-weekly van delivery.

In addition to an online catalog, the Library offers other digital resources. The library has added links to the NEW Erving website at <https://www.erving-ma.gov/erving-public-library> featuring databases, historical photos, streaming videos, digital music, ebooks and audiobooks offered through the services of Gale, Freegal, Overdrive (Libby) and Hoopla.

*Digital Content adds hundreds of thousands of items to the Erving Library Collection

Staff

Barbara Friedman, MLIS, Library Director

- Barbara Friedman has completed her 10th year at the Erving Public Library. Among her accomplishments are:
- A \$2.7 million grant for new library construction was received in 2018
- Enlisted and trained new staff
- Improved technology and taught tech to seniors and others
- Added nearly 1000 items to the Library's collection & added digital services

Jean Daley

- Jean Daley has completed her 6th year at the Erving Public Library.
- Developed and offered unique STEM programs
- Wrote Cultural Council grants
- Supervised new staff and volunteers
- Increased her leadership role at the library
- "Weeded" the collection of over 500 items that were out-of-date

Andrea DeLuliis

- Joined the staff as Library Assistant in July 2018
- Holds a BA from Hampshire College, Amherst, MA
- Other skills: An AmeriCorps Volunteer, Works with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and brings previous experience from library and book store jobs

Shannon Compton, Ph.D. worked during the first half of the year and is now the Emerging Technologies Associate for the Hatch Learning Commons at Bay Path University. She also teaches at Greenfield Community College.

John Wheeler, Student Library Assistant, supported through Community Action grant left in the fall to begin his studies in computer science at Springfield Technical College.

Rebecca Walsh continues to make the library sparkle. The Library staff is assisted by Bryan Smith, Betsy Sicard and staff in all town departments. The Library staff relies on the assistance and cooperation of other Town employees to bring good service to the community and for which we are truly grateful.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library are a dedicated group of volunteers lead by Rebecca Hubbard (President), Arlene Wonsey (Treasurer), Gerry Cornwell, Carol Gregory, Ann Lucas, Sandy Johnson, Dulcie McAndrews, Kathy McAndrews and other members who contribute monetarily through annual membership dues.

The Friends of the Library raised and contributed over \$3000 to support the Library in 2018. Their fundraising efforts included a Valentine Candy Sale, Bookbag Sale, the Annual Book and Plant Sale, Holiday Book Sale and Raffle and the annual membership drive. The Friends are a 501(c) 3 public charity. Members lobbied for funding at Legislative Day at the State House and are currently raising funds for the new building.

Volunteers

The Library Staff is assisted by many residents that offer countless hours of volunteerism. We appreciate every hour, but recognize here, those who regularly volunteer:

Ann Lucas, now completing her 10th year at the Library

Maggie Fidanza has offered monthly craft days for four years

Becky Hubbard and Arlene Wonsey have offered holiday craft days for two years.

Committees

Library Building Committee

Barbara Friedman, MLIS, Library Director is a non-voting member. Citizen representatives are: Marcia Bernard, Librarian; Jacquelyn Boyden, Co-Chair and Town Assistant Assessor; Sara Campbell, Co-Chair, Consulting Civil Engineer; Rebecca Hubbard, EPL Friends President; Rupert (Peter) Roy-Clark, Trustee and Supervisor, UMass engineer; Deb Smith, Planning & Finance Board; Charles Zilinski, Telecommunication Technician/ Electrical Apprentice. Cynthia Roy-Clark, representing the student community.

This Annual Report was prepared by Barbara Friedman, MLIS, Library Director

Respectfully submitted,

Mackensy Bailey, Chairperson

Rupert Roy-Clark, Secretary

Dan Hammock

